

Trig. inequality with tangents-5454 SSMJ

<https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6786788689923198976>

5454. Proposed by Arkady Alt , San Jose , California, USA.

Prove that for integers k, l any any $\alpha, \beta \in \left(0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$, the following inequality holds:

$$k^2 \tan \alpha + l^2 \tan \beta \geq \frac{2kl}{\sin(\alpha + \beta)} - (k^2 + l^2) \cot(\alpha + \beta).$$

Solution by proposer.

Since $\cos \alpha, \cos \beta, \sin(\alpha + \beta) > 0$, we obtain

$$k^2 \tan \alpha + l^2 \tan \beta \geq \frac{2kl}{\sin(\alpha + \beta)} - (k^2 + l^2) \cot(\alpha + \beta) \Leftrightarrow$$

$$k^2(\tan \alpha + \cot(\alpha + \beta)) + l^2(\tan \beta + \cot(\alpha + \beta)) \geq \frac{2kl}{\sin(\alpha + \beta)} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\frac{k^2 \cos \beta}{\cos \alpha \sin(\alpha + \beta)} + \frac{l^2 \cos \alpha}{\cos \beta \sin(\alpha + \beta)} \geq \frac{2kl}{\sin(\alpha + \beta)} \Leftrightarrow (k \cos \beta - l \cos \alpha)^2 \geq 0.$$

Equality occurs when $\frac{k}{\cos \alpha} = \frac{l}{\cos \beta}$.

Remark.

The problem was sent to the magazine in the following formulation:

Prove that for any $\alpha, \beta \in \left(0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$ and any real k, l the following inequality holds:

$$k^2 \tan \alpha + l^2 \tan \beta \geq \frac{2kl}{\sin(\alpha + \beta)} - (k^2 + l^2) \cot(\alpha + \beta).$$